(c) All out efforts are being made to complete the adjustment of pending items by deploying the staff beyond normal working hours and progress is being watched by the Controller of Defence Accounts (ORs) North, Meerut and the Controller General of Defence Accounts.

To speed up the process of adjustments in the accounts, computerised maintenance of pay accounts is also being introduced in the different Pay and Accounts Offices in a phased programme.

Contracted rates of payment of rationed articles at defence service stations

396. SHRI JERLIE E. TARIANG: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that contracted rates of payment with respect to different items of rationed articles at different defence service stations are different and do not compare favourably with the All India Prices;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for variations in the cost of rationed articles payable to contractors; and

(c) what are the present contracted rates of milk, meat, vegetables and fruits for the stations at Bombay, Jam Nagar, Cochin, Goa, Delhi, Jallandhar, Guwahati, Ambala, Bikaner and Calcutta?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) and (b) The rates at which fresh supplies and perishable commodities are supplied vary from station to station. The difference caters for different market conditions, local availability, tranportsation requirements, etc. However, the rates compare favourably with the local rates for such supplies.

(c) A statement is given below.

Statement

Sl. No.	Station	Rates of items per kg/Ltr (in Rupees)			
		Milk	Meat dressed	Vegetables	Fruits
1	Bombay	*6.60	27.90	2.36	3.71
2	†Jamnagar	6.5	20.85	2.69	4.45
3	†Cochin	4.82	31.00	4.12	6.69
4	Goa	*5.15	29.71	3.39	5.91
†5	Delhi	*3.30	21.65	1.06	2.6
6	Jullandhar	@3.10	23.62	1.40	3.14
7	Bikaner	@3.50	18.29	1.53	3.05
8	Ambala	@3.90	23.19	1.29	2.81
9	Calcutta	*6.10	20.89	2.15	4.12
10	Guwahati	@3.80	23.10	2.77	5.01

(As there are a large number of varieties of vegetables and fruits, only average rates of these items have been indicated)

At present no milk contract has been concluded at Bombay, Goa, Ambala, Calcutta, Jullandhar, Bikaner and Guwahati where Military Farms are supplying milk. The rates of purchase given above are local purchase rates at which Military Farms are procuring milk.

*Buffalo milk of 6 per cent butter fat.

@Cow milk of 4 per cent butter fat.

†At Jamnagar and Delhi, milk is pro-cured by Army Service Corps and at Cochin by Navy as per ASC Specifications.